

1           1.       In a network that includes a server system connected to the Internet, and a  
2 computer system and a telephone system that communicate with the server system, a method  
3 performed at the computer system for enabling a user to a map an Internet document to  
4 control how text and links of the Internet document will be presented to the user over the  
5 telephone system, the method comprising the acts of:

6                   receiving an Internet document in response to a first user input received from  
7 the computer system, wherein the Internet document comprises at least one of text  
8 and links; and

9                   creating a user-defined map of the Internet document by performing the acts  
10 of:

11                   receiving a second user input that selects a region of the Internet  
12 document to be mapped;

13                   receiving a third user input that causes one of either text and links of  
14 the selected region to be mapped; and

15                   receiving a fourth user input that associates a name with the selected  
16 region; and

17                   wherein the user-defined map is transmitted to and stored in a database of the  
18 server system.

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20           2.       A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the server system generates an audio  
21 representation of any text and any links contained in the Internet document that correspond  
22 to the user-defined map in response to a first user request entered at the telephone system.  
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1           3.     A method as defined in claim 2, wherein said audio representation is  
2 transmitted to the user over the telephone system in response to a second user request  
3 entered at the telephone system.  
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5           4.     A method as defined in claim 2, wherein prior to the act of generating an  
6 audio representation of any text and any links, the Internet document is parsed to identify  
7 any text and any links included in the selected region of the Internet document.  
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9           5.     A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said Internet document comprises  
10 HTML content.  
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12           6.     A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the first user input comprises a  
13 Uniform Resource Locator.  
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15           7.     A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the act of displaying the  
16 Internet document on a user interface associated with the computer system.  
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18           8.     A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the act of prompting the  
19 user for the first user input, second user input, third user input, and fourth user input.  
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21           9.     A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the second user input comprises a  
22 user highlighting a region of the Internet document.  
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1           10.     A method as defined in claim 3, wherein the third user input indicates that  
2 links are to be mapped, such that at least one link associated with the selected region is  
3 mapped, and wherein the at least one link is associated with at least one other Internet  
4 document.

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6           11.     A method as defined in claim 10, wherein the user is presented with a prompt  
7 at the telephone system to select the at least one link.

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9           12.     A method as defined in claim 11, wherein the second user request selects the  
10 at least one link in response to the prompt at the telephone system to select the at least one  
11 link.

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13           13.     A method as defined in claim 12, wherein upon receiving the second user  
14 request at the telephone, an audio representation of text of the at least one other Internet  
15 document is transmitted to the user over the telephone system.

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17           14.     A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the act of creating a user-defined  
18 map further comprises the acts of :

19                   receiving a fifth user input that selects a second region to be mapped; and

20                   receiving a sixth user input that causes one of either text and links of the  
21 second selected region to be mapped; and

22                   receiving a seventh user input that associates a second name with the second  
23 selected region.  
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1           15.     A method as defined in claim 14, wherein the second region comprises a  
2 region of at least one other Internet document.

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4           16.     A method as defined in claim 15, wherein the at least one other Internet  
5 document corresponds to at least one link of said any links of said Internet document.  
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1           17. In a network that includes a server system connected to the Internet, and a  
2 computer system and a telephone system that communicate with the server system, a method  
3 performed at the server system for enabling a user to access an Internet document with the  
4 telephone system, such that content of the Internet document is presented to the user  
5 according to a user-defined map of the Internet document, the method comprising the acts  
6 of:

7                   receiving an access request for the Internet document from a user using a  
8 telephone system;

9                   accessing a user-defined map, the user-defined map comprising:

10                           information that identifies at least one region of the Internet  
11 document;

12                           at least one name associated with the at least one region; and

13                           information that associates the at least one region with one of either  
14 text and links;

15                   parsing the Internet document to identify any text and any links included in  
16 the at least one region;

17                   generating an audio representation of said any text and any links contained in  
18 the at least one region; and

19                   transmitting said audio representation to the user over the telephone system.

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21           18. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the audio representation is  
22 generated using a text to speech module at the server system.

1           19.     A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the Internet document comprises  
2 HTML content.

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4           20.     A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the Internet document comprises  
5 Voice eXtensible Markup Language content.

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7           21.     A method as defined in claim 17, wherein said one of text and links of the at  
8 least one region has been modified after the user-defined map was created.

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10          22.     A method as defined in claim 21, wherein the audio representation includes  
11 said one of text and links of the at least one region that has been modified after the user-  
12 defined map was created.

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14          23.     A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the act of transmitting the user-  
15 defined map comprises the act of transmitting the user-defined map to the server system.

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1           24. In the mapping module of a server system that communicates with a  
2 telephone system and a computer system, a method for enabling a user to a map an Internet  
3 document to control how text and links of the Internet document will be presented to the  
4 user over the telephone system, the method comprising the acts of:

5           retrieving an Internet document in response to a first user input received from  
6 the computer system, wherein the Internet document comprises at least one of text  
7 and links;

8           creating a user-defined map of the Internet document by performing the acts  
9 of:

10           receiving a second user input from the computer system, the second  
11 user input selecting a region of the Internet document to be mapped;

12           receiving a third user input from the computer system, the third user  
13 input causing the mapping module to map one of either text and links of the  
14 selected region; and

15           receiving a fourth user input from the computer system, the fourth  
16 user input causing the mapping module to associate a name with the selected  
17 region; and

18           storing a copy of the user-defined map at a database that is associated with  
19 the server system.

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21           25. A method as defined by claim 24, wherein the Internet document comprises  
22 HTML content.

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1           26.     A method as defined by claim 24, further comprising, prior to the act of  
2     creating the user-defined map, the act of transmitting the Internet document to the computer  
3     system, wherein the Internet document is displayed on a user interface.

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5           27.     A method as defined in claim 24, wherein the server system generates an  
6     audio representation of any text and any links contained in the Internet document that  
7     correspond to the user-defined map in response to a user input entered at the telephone  
8     system.

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10          28.     A method as defined in claim 27, wherein said audio representation is  
11     transmitted to the user over the telephone system in response to a second user input entered  
12     at the telephone system.

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14          29.     A method as defined in claim 24, further comprising the act of prompting the  
15     user for the first user input, second user input, third user input, and fourth user input.

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17          30.     A method as defined in claim 27, wherein prior to the act of generating an  
18     audio representation of said any text and any links, the server system performs the act of  
19     parsing the Internet document to identify said any text and any links included in the Internet  
20     document.

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1           31.     A computer program product for implementing, in a computer system that  
2 communicates with an Internet-connected server system, the server system communicating  
3 with a telephone system, a method for enabling a user to a map an Internet document to  
4 control how text and links of the Internet document will be presented to the user over the  
5 telephone system, the computer program product comprising:

6                     a computer-readable medium carrying computer-executable instructions for  
7 implementing the method, the computer-executable instructions comprising:

8                             program code means for receiving an Internet document in response  
9 to a first user input received from the computer system, wherein the Internet  
10 document comprises at least one of text and links;

11                            program code means for creating a user-defined map of the Internet  
12 document, wherein creating a user-defined map comprises the acts of:

13                                  receiving a second user input that selects a region of the  
14 Internet document to be mapped;

15                                  receiving a third user input that causes one of either text and  
16 links of the selected region to be mapped; and

17                                  receiving a fourth user input that associates a name with the  
18 selected region; and

19                            program code means for transmitting a copy of a user-defined map to  
20 the server system.

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22           32.     A computer program product as defined in claim 31, where in the computer-  
23 readable medium further comprises program code means for prompting the user for first user  
24 input, second user input, third user input, and forth user input.

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33. A computer program product as defined in claim 31, where in the computer-readable medium further comprises program code means for displaying the Internet document on a user interface.

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